

of saving thru the gospel of the blood of Christ is out of fashion. Sin, salvation and the Scriptures are the same and the preacher must stick by them or his power goes out.

God will not honor the word of anyone who doesn't believe in the Bible. He may as well enter battle with a wooden sword. The Bible was inspired—it was the breath of God. There must be new enthusiasm in the church. We are sometimes amazed at the dullness of ministers. I am as much at fault as you. It is the unpardonable sin. We must repeat the truths of the oracles of the living God. You must bring the people into the church with religion. They don't want music. The hurdy-gurdy and the stereopticon views will not satisfy them. There is sufficient vaudeville in the church to supply the demand.

Religion of the old-fashioned sort is needed. We must get in closer touch with the people. Preach Christ as a man of the people. It is a mistake to put Him far out of reach of the class to which He belonged. The church is handicapped by its lack of hospitality to the stranger. I refused to rent a pew to a wealthy man because of his abominable effrontery to a stranger.

#### A WORD OF GOD

S. KIEHL

"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Bless the Lord O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory thru our Lord Jesus Christ. Let such as love thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. He that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Where are we dwelling? May the Lord enable us to dwell in the secret place of the most High, then shall we abide under the shadow of the Almighty. (Psa. 91:1.)

## Missions

#### Chicago Letter

We are just now approaching the "moving season" and hundreds of families are on wheels so to speak these days. Those who have not lived in large cities can not appreciate what that means. May 1, is the time when all leases expire, and general house cleaning must begin. Paper hangers, caliminers, painters, and all kinds of house decorators are in demand, and busy day and night.

Here we see the evil of the very prevalent system of the "Installment plan"; i. e. buying furniture and house-hold goods, even clothing, and every thing used by the family, on the "installment-so much a week plan." Large firms do that sort of business. Any one who can buy all the goods they wish, and many poor people take advantage of it, and put themselves hopelessly in debt. Collectors visit them weekly and extort from them all their weekly earnings, except barely enough to buy bread for the family, and the "Beer" which is the curse of thousands of poor people. So when moving time comes, the Collectors for the installment firms infest every neighborhood looking up the delinquents, many of whom try to elude them, and move to quarters where their creditors will not find them for a while any how. But soon they are located, and if they do not pay the perchance small balance they yet owe, the firm will probably take *all the* furniture back, even after it is *nearly all paid* for. The family losing all they have paid, not one thing left to show for it. Of all business employed by so-called-responsibility houses, I think the "instalment system" the most ruinous to the masses. Of course to those who use good judgment it can do no harm, but then they soon establish good credit when they become known, and can buy on ordinary business methods of the regular trade. But to those who *need*, and whose ambition to "*shine*" beyond their means, it soon means disaster. Soon hounded by creditors: courage lost; positions lost; self-respect gone. What remains? The beer pail; the slums. The class that is down. Foolish are they? Their folly has been turned into fortunes and palaces, by those more gifted with judgment. Were there no poor, there could be no rich, for in Chicago, it seems the misfortunes of the one pave the way to fortune for the other. God have mercy on them. Jesus the Savior must save some men from "misfortune" and the other class from "fortune." Both conditions are disastrous. Neither is founded on a "solid foundation in the matter of morals."

Our readers may wonder why we mention those things. Because, dear brother in Christ, it was probably to those classes our Savior addressed those wonderful words, "Come all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." It is out of the burdened class in a large measure God is calling for himself a people; calling them out of kingdoms that are based in many respects on false systems, and working on wrong principles, full of sin, immorality, greed for gain, that is crushing body, soul and spirit; calling them to repent, bury the dead sinful ambitions that have ruined, and made the world a battle field strewn with corpses and wrecked homes. God hears the groans of the helpless and dying every day. Drink, gaming, speculating, are admitted sins. But the "Social world," is a game, differing from the others only in this, that

character, reputation, home, family, are at stake, as well as money. All those things, along with "social gossip-mongering," "are of the world, the flesh, and the devil," and are death to all spiritual life, or high intellectuality. Among all these conditions God has a people. He is calling them. Here in Chicago he has a people, they will hear his voice. But there are many who will not hear. Brother, are you helping to send forth the call?

I am reading Brother Gillin's letters on New York with great interest. The conditions spoken of there are duplicated in every detail here in Chicago, and probably in every city.

#### REFORMATION WITHOUT SALVATION,

And salvation without a Savior, are after all only a high grade of politics, that have alas crept into the churches in some instances, and has resulted in foisting upon the world, a Christianity (?) without a Christ. A God worship, that has no Bible semblance, godliness, (*Theosebious* God likeness).

We wonder if indeed there is not danger that Paganism may don the Christian non-de-plume, and come forth to curse the western world with its systems of casts and humanitarianism (?) so called, as it has the effete east. The congested centers of population give us opportunity to study phases of life not met with elsewhere. The cream of manhood and womanhood are not the natural product of the city. Those sterling qualities are bred elsewhere. Jesus entered the cities; the Apostles made the cities the centers of their work. Had early Christians confined their work to the country districts, there would have been fewer martyrs, and the Epistolary writings in the New Testament would not have been written. Rome would have flourished, Christianity would have perished. But Christianity entered the citadels of sin and centers of power; proclaimed the call of God to repentance, sufficient numbers heard the call to offer to God such a sacrifice as never before was offered, and the altars of Bacchus were drenched with the blood of the sacrifice of that army of Christian martyrs. Pagan Rome perished; Christ flourished, for the blood of the martyrs was the seed of the Church. Even so now. Jesus can not use men who cannot patiently endure, even sacrifice that is felt. Such God calls today to enter the places "where sin abounds" in order that the Grace of God which bringeth Salvation "may much more abound."

It is with that end in view, that we are laboring in the fear of the Lord here, and we are sure of the reward. Of the hundred whose names are on our Sunday School books, many will grow up to praise God that the Brethren church sent forth workers here, and older folks who have received the blessing of salvation and the comfort of the scriptures of God will rejoice because of the day they heard the call and the whole Gospel of God. Thus we labor preach and pray, sowing the seed day and night, soon we shall